

1. A video recording system to record an external video data stream for a video program segment selected using an electronic program guide, the video recording system comprising:

a video input interface that receives the external video data stream for the selected video program segment;

a video data management system that:

recognizes connection of the external rotating storage drive to the video recording system and subsequently identifies the external rotating storage drive as available for video data storage;

routes at least a portion of the streaming video data to the external rotating storage drive via the isochronous interface in order to record the external video data stream for the video program segment.

3. The video recording system of Claim 2, wherein the set-top box comprises an internal rotating storage drive.

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1 5. The video recording system of Claim 1 further comprising a personal
2 video recorder that receives the external video data stream.

1 6. The video recording system of Claim 5, wherein the personal video
2 recorder comprises an internal rotating storage drive.

1 7. The video recording system of Claim 6, wherein the internal rotating
2 storage drive is an internal hard disk drive comprising an IDE interface.

1 8. The video recording system of Claim 1, wherein the video data
2 management system automatically recognizes connection of the external rotating
3 storage drive to the video recording system.

1 9. The video recording system of Claim 1, wherein the external rotating
2 storage drive is an external hard disk drive.

1 10. The video recording system of Claim 1, wherein the isochronous
2 interface is compatible with the IEEE 1394 standard.

1 11. The video recording system of Claim 1, wherein the external video data
2 stream and streaming video data include video data and audio data.

1 12. The video recording system of Claim 1, wherein the video data
2 management system further comprises a video data encoder that encodes at least a
3 portion of the streaming video data.

1 13. The video recording system of Claim 1, wherein the video data
2 management system further comprises a video data encrypter that encrypts at least a
3 portion of the streaming video data.

1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the current situation and what needs to be changed.

15 routing at least a portion of the streaming video data to the external
16 rotating storage drive via the isochronous interface in order to record the
17 external video data stream for the video program segment.

1 16. The method of Claim 15, wherein the method further comprises
2 encoding at least a portion of the streaming video data.

1 17. The method of Claim 15, wherein the method further comprises
2 encrypting at least a portion of the streaming video data.

1 18. The method of Claim 15, wherein the method further comprises routing
2 the portion of the streaming video data to either an internal rotating storage drive or the
3 external rotating storage drive.

1 19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the method further comprises routing
2 the portion of the streaming video data to the external rotating storage drive when the

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